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(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/897,584
Filing Date	06/09/2000
First Named Inventor	DeWitte et al
Group Art Unit	3885
Examiner Name	Weber
Attorney Docket Number	42697.265

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

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Applicant(s): Robert S. DeWitte et al.
Serial No.: 09/897,584
Filed: June 29, 2001
Title: System and Method for Structure-Based Design That Includes Accurate Prediction of Binding Free Energy
Examiner: Jon P. Weber
Group: 3885

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

SIR:

This responds to the Office Action dated September 26, 2002. Kindly amend the application as follows before examination on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5-20 without prejudice.

REMARKS

There are 20 claims pending in the present application. In that Office Action, the Examiner contends that the claims are directed to eight (8) distinct inventions and Applicants are required to elect which invention to prosecute in the present application. In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect the Group I claims, claims 1-4, to prosecute in the present application. Given this election, Applicants also have cancelled claims 5-20. Since the two named inventors are inventors with regard to each of the eight inventions, there is no need to amend inventorship.

Although applicants made the election as required, Applicants also submit that the there are not eight distinct inventions but that all of the groups of claims specified by the